

Cortero, Liza

From: Nahigian, Joy
Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2006 2:00 PM
To: Cortero, Liza
Subject: FW: Comments on CAT draft report

~ Joy Nahigian

*Joy Nahigian
Assistant to the Secretary
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916/324-9692*

From: Jeanie Mascia [mailto:jeanie@greenenvironment.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2006 8:55 AM
To: governor@governor.ca.gov
Cc: Tutt, Eileen; Lloyd Ph.D., Alan C.; Baker, Anne
Subject: Comments on CAT draft report

Dear Governor,

I would like to thank you for your Executive Order S-3-05. As a concerned American citizen, a California resident, and a graduate student in Environmental Management at University of San Francisco, I am keenly aware of the devastating impact global warming is expected to have on California, and on our world. I strongly support your Executive Order and after reviewing the draft Climate Action Team Report, would like to make some suggestions regarding the proposed strategies for reducing emissions.

If the proposed strategies are implemented and sustained throughout their formative years, California residents will benefit, as well as California's economy. Residents will experience such benefits as a reduction in heat-related mortalities and other health problems. The economy will improve as the ever-growing consumer population interested in socially and environmentally-responsible products becomes aware of our efforts. At a minimum, our efforts will draw attention to California simply by leading the country in setting high emission-reduction standards. Our efforts will also help our economy by sustaining the beauty for which California is known and thus maintain or even enhance the number of people who visit the state. Finally, if we implement the proposed strategies, we will protect our agricultural industry, which is dependent on a stable climate and continued water supply.

However, please consider the following:

- Create an aggressive plan for determining authority for the recommended strategies that don't have a designated authoritative agency. It is my concern that the strategies without a responsible agency will "fall through the cracks."
- Define 1990 emission levels so success in the following years can be measured objectively. Finalize baseline emission levels by the end of 2006. This is a critical piece for measuring

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progress over the years.

- Develop better ways of measuring emission levels. This will allow us to better prioritize emission reduction strategies if a certain sector is determined to be emitting more or less than originally believed.
- Reduce the numbers of emission reductions in the Resources Agency section. The ratio of emission reductions does not seem to match the rate of population growth. Natural resources will be increasingly stressed as the result of population growth therefore the numbers should be lowered to reflect this.
- Focus on improving existing public transportation. Since the infrastructure is already in place in many cities, it would be cost-effective to work on updating these systems to be more user-friendly.
- Offer tax incentives or subsidies to those who use biodiesel as well as those who manufacture biodiesel. The draft report estimates that only a small percentage of diesel users (1-4%) will be affected, therefore tax incentives/subsidies might encourage diesel users to switch to biodiesel. Furthermore, there is only a limited amount of biodiesel in California, so tax incentives might increase production.
- Solicit non-profit and volunteer organizations that already practice activities such as urban forestry, afforestation and reforestation in order to reduce costs to the State for these programs.
- Elaborate on the mandatory reporting requirements to include auditing and enforcement procedures.

The draft report states that "the potency of emissions that have already built up, their long atmospheric lifetimes and the inertia of the Earth's climate system" have already made some impacts of climate change unavoidable. This is why it is imperative to begin implementing the strategies proposed in the draft report as soon as possible. California's livelihood, economy, and reputation are at stake. Thank you for taking the time to read my comments.

Sincerely,

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